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CROPS AND MARKETS



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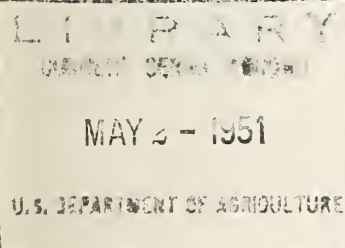
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FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

APRIL 16, 1951



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

The Government of Iran issued an order on April 7, 1951, prohibiting further exports of cotton until a survey can be made to determine whether adequate supplies are assured for the local textile mills until the 1951 crop becomes available. Several mills had ceased operations because of the shortage of raw cotton. High prices available on foreign markets resulted in exports in 1950-51 more than twice as large as the previous season. Exports during the Iranian year which ended March 20, 1951, totaled about 80,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). Production during the 1950-51 season is estimated at 110,000 bales, with mill requirements (1949-50) around 70,000 bales. The government is establishing local committees to supervise and in some cases control the operations of the private cotton mills. If these committees certify that stocks are more than sufficient to meet mill needs for the remainder of the season, further exports may be permitted on a limited scale.

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The recent increase in estimates of 1950-51 cotton production in Greece from 103,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight) to 111,000 bales, has provided more than an adequate amount to meet consumption requirements for coming months. This has led the Greek Government to approve for export 500 metric tons of cotton (about 2,300 bales) before April 30, 1951. An additional 500 metric tons has been tentatively approved for export after that date. Since the end of the war Greece has not exported any cotton. On the contrary, imports ranging from 12,000 to 50,000 bales annually have been necessary to meet domestic needs.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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REVIEW OF 1950 WORLD CORN CROP

World corn production in 1950 is estimated at 5,325 million bushels, according to the latest information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. At that figure, production would be about 5 percent less than in 1949 and 11 percent less than the record crop of 5,995 million bushels harvested in 1948. Production was relatively favorable in all major areas except the Danube Basin countries, where summer drought reduced yields, and parts of Asia. The present estimate of 1950 world corn production is 12 percent above the 1935-39 average of 4,750 million bushels.

Nearly 60 percent of the 1950 crop was produced in the United States, where improved cultural practices and widespread use of higher-yielding hybrids have increased production despite a declining trend in acreage. During the last 5 years production of corn in the United States averaged 17 percent greater than in the 1920's from an acreage about 15 percent smaller. This development has placed the world crop on a higher level in recent years, more than offsetting the failure of other important corn-producing areas to regain prewar levels of acreage and production.

The postwar pattern of world production has also had its effect on international trade in corn. In Argentina, where the 1950 crop is now being harvested, preliminary estimates of production place the harvest at around 160 million bushels. This is well above the drought-stricken 1949 harvest of only 33 million bushels, but only about half the 1935-39 average production of 302 million bushels. Exports of corn from Argentina - formerly the world's principal source of supply - barely exceeded 18 million bushels during the marketing year ended March 31, 1951, and if current production prospects are realized, availability of corn for export during the coming year probably will be less than 80 million bushels. Prewar (1934-38) exports of corn from Argentina averaged about 255 million bushels annually. As a result of this situation, the United States will continue to be an important source of supply for corn moving into world trade during the coming year.

Estimates of acreage, yield per acre, and production in 1950 with comparisons for earlier years are shown by continents, and by individual countries where available, in the accompanying tables.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports of world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

AFRICA														
Belgian Congo.....	179:	329:	-	-	-	19.6	17.8	-	-	-	-	-	3,500:	5,860:
Kenya g/.....	103:	102:	-	-	-	30.3	24.0	-	-	-	-	-	3,121:	2,453:
Basutoland.....	350:	360:	-	-	-	8.1	7.5	-	-	-	-	-	2,822:	2,709:
Egypt.....	1,846:	1,610:	-	-	-	39.5	30.7	34.1	32.3	-	-	-	63,229:	56,685:
French Morocco.....	1,112:	1,351:	-	-	-	7.6	7.9	9.8	12.7	4.8	-	-	8,505:	9,863:
French West Africa.....	1,500:	-	-	-	-	5/	12.4	13.3	12.9	10.0	12.9	-	5/	21,473:
Madagascar.....	260:	172:	-	-	-	15.3	12.9	10.0	12.9	-	-	-	3,969:	2,213:
Angola.....	1,435:	1,470:	-	-	-	9.0	8.3	-	-	-	-	-	12,859:	12,180:
Southern Rhodesia g/.....	268:	243:	-	-	-	22.1	21.1	20.8	-	-	-	-	5,923:	5,116:
Union of South Africa.....	6,989:	7,677:	6,103:	8,000:	-	11.5	9.4	11.8	12.5	-	-	-	80,132:	71,711:
Estimated total g/.....	18,200:	19,280:	18,210:	19,880:	19,800:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	255,000:	240,000:
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina.....	10,775:	8,176:	5,000:	2,500:	-	28.0	31.7	27.2	13.2	32.0	-	-	301,986:	259,124:
Brazil.....	10,025:	10,208:	11,020:	11,500:	-	21.5	20.3	20.1	20.9	-	-	-	215,153:	207,438:
Chile.....	110:	126:	115:	114:	120:	22.7	20.7	22.2	27.2	-	-	-	2,496:	2,603:
Colombia.....	1,360:	1,440:	1,693:	-	-	5/	15.1	16.0	-	-	-	-	19,511:	22,969:
Uruguay.....	1,425:	1,201:	339:	470:	482:	12.2	10.9	9.9	7.5	9.5	-	-	5,188:	4,573:
Estimated total g/.....	24,930:	22,640:	20,840:	18,710:	20,840:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	575,000:	530,000:
OCEANIA														
Australia.....	314:	298:	200:	198:	-	22.4	25.1	30.6	30.8	-	-	-	7,030:	7,482:
New Zealand.....	7:	8:	7:	7:	5:	45.4	51.8	51.0	51.4	50.0	-	-	318:	414:
Estimated total g/.....	325:	310:	210:	210:	190:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,450:	8,000:
World total g/.....	220,420:	217,890:	213,900:	216,730:	214,030:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,750,000:	5,180,000:

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which began early in 1951. 2/ Figures thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1950 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest which began early in 1951. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Revised estimates for refer to harvested area as far as possible. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production Northern Hemisphere countries; for the Southern Hemisphere revised preliminary forecasts. 7/ Estimates for reporting areas only. 8/ Cultivation on European holdings only. Allowances for native cultivation, not shown, are Allowances for non-reporting areas, not shown, are included in estimated total for Asia. 9/ Cultivation on European holdings only. Allowances for native cultivation, not shown, are included in estimated total for Africa.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, result of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

WORLD APPLE AND PEAR CROPS HIGHER THAN IN 1949 1/

World production of apples (including those used for cider) in 1950 is estimated at 642.0 million bushels, 18 percent above the 1949 crop of 545.2 million and 29 percent higher than the prewar (1935-39) average of 498.0 million. Apple production excluding those for cider, estimated at 441.1 million bushels, shows an increase of only 5 percent over the preceding year's crop of 418.8 million, but a 32 percent increase over the 1935-39 average of 334.2 million.

World pear production (including those used for cider) is estimated at 174.9 million bushels, 4 percent above the 1949 crop of 167.7 million and 33 percent above the prewar average of 131.0 million bushels. Pear production, excluding those used for cider, is indicated to be 144.8 million bushels, 3 percent below the 1949 crop and shows the same increase over the prewar average as the total crop.

Apple and pear production in the North American area of 139.0 and 32.7 million bushels, respectively, were 15.0 million and 5.4 million bushels below the crops of the previous season. The decreases were due to smaller crops in the United States and Canada.

Apple production (including apples for cider) in Europe, indicated at 454.5 million bushels, was 33 percent above the 1949 crop of 343.0 million and 41 percent above the prewar average of 321.7 million. Production increases occurred in Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Increases in production resulted from new trees coming into bearing, good growing conditions, and better methods of spraying and pruning.

Switzerland's crop of 30.3 million bushels compares with 11.9 million for 1949 and is second only to that of 1944. The crop in Western Germany, estimated at 49.7 million bushels was 78 percent above the 1949 crop of 27.9 million and is the result of very high yields despite reduced tree numbers. Denmark had a crop of 12.9 million bushels, about double the 1949 crop and more than 4 times larger than the prewar average of 2.8 million bushels. Normal weather conditions prevailed in 1950 and the number of bearing trees nearly doubled. Dessert and cooking apple production in France, estimated at 18.4 million bushels, increased 10 percent over the 1949 crop of 16.8 million and was 75 percent above the 1935-39 average of 10.5 million. Apples for cider, estimated at 192.0 million bushels, was 63 percent above the 1949 crop of 118.1 million bushels.

Production of pears for all purposes in Europe, estimated at 125.1 million bushels, was 12 percent above the 1949 crop of 112.0 million and 50 percent above the prewar average of 83.5 million. Production of pears excluding those for cider, estimated at 95.0 million bushels, shows only an increase of 2 percent above the 1949 crop but is 54 percent above the prewar average of 61.5 million bushels. Switzerland, France (cider), and Germany all show increases in production for the current season.

1/ A more extensive statement will be published soon as a Foreign Agriculture Circular, available upon request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

APPLES: Production in specified countries,
averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average		1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	1935-39	1940-44				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada.....	14,560:	13,459:	15,619:	13,404:	18,151:	16,091
Mexico.....	1,231:	1,831:	2,025:	2,073:	2,151:	2,388
United States.....	127,311:	113,787:	113,041:	88,407:	133,742:	120,499
Total.....	143,102:	129,077:	130,685:	103,884:	154,044:	138,978
EUROPE						
Austria:						
Dessert and cooking.....	7,095:	4,624:	6,200:	10,242:	9,645:	13,306
Cider.....	6,291:	4,101:	2,420:	5,374:	3,215:	3,674
Belgium.....	5,435:	6,103:	13,779:	3,215:	18,372:	13,779
Bulgaria.....	1,117:	3,617:	1,766:	1,500:	2,000:	1,700
Czechoslovakia.....	6,931:	3,362:	9,466:	12,242:	10,775:	9,100
Denmark.....	2,818:	4,593:	6,430:	11,482:	6,889:	12,860
Finland.....	1,008:	503:	593:	826:	367:	294
France:						
Dessert and cooking.....	10,499:	9,724:	16,369:	13,411:	16,796:	18,422
Cider.....	153,973:	114,570:	73,412:	72,323:	118,118:	192,000
Germany:						
Western Zone.....	36,116:	34,099:	38,682:	24,200:	27,900:	49,700
Eastern Zone.....	10,788:	7,676:	8,618:	5,400:	6,200:	11,100
Greece.....	374:	564:	1,291:	1,405:	1,517:	1,240
Hungary.....	2,145:	1,148:	1,415:	2,067:	3,123:	2,600
Italy.....	12,923:	14,786:	22,206:	17,379:	30,948:	23,483
Luxembourg:						
Dessert and cooking.....	193:	296:	427:	300:	500:	300
Cider.....	93:	83:	49:	25:	50:	40
Netherlands.....	3,631:	4,048:	10,978:	7,946:	15,157:	12,630
Norway.....	1,080:	798:	1,188:	1,654:	717:	2,704
Poland and Danzig.....	8,200:	6,600:	8,300:	6,900:	7,300:	6,200
Rumania.....	3,255:	3,754:	2,722:	2,296:	4,500:	3,800
Spain.....	5,411:	6,603:	5,966:	3,996:	4,134:	3,878
Sweden.....	4,770:	3,809:	5,603:	8,038:	7,762:	9,691
Switzerland.....	16,452:	25,353:	17,453:	29,854:	11,942:	30,313
United Kingdom:						
Dessert and cooking.....	10,597:	13,831:	27,753:	17,873:	24,005:	21,467
Cider.....	3,427:	3,256:	4,951:	3,948:	5,026:	5,119
Yugoslavia.....	7,098:	9,187:	7,895:	5,000:	6,000:	5,100
Total.....	321,720:	287,088:	295,932:	268,896:	342,958:	454,500
Total (excluding cider)....	157,936:	165,078:	215,100:	187,226:	216,549:	253,667
ASIA						
Israel.....	65:	118:	240:	200:	250:	225
Lebanon..... 2/	104:	260:	597:	597:	551:	597
Syria.....	3/	84:	257:	257:	321:	275
Turkey.....	5,149:	3,676:	2,709:	4,528:	5,480:	5,469
Japan.....	7,624:	10,372:	7,073:	13,962:	15,500:	14,000
Korea.....	3,220:	5,501:	2,378:	3,200:	2,000:	1,000
Total.....	16,162:	20,011:	13,254:	22,744:	24,102:	21,566
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina.....	1,400:	6,135:	4,800:	8,670:	9,800:	10,500
Chile.....	1,025:	591:	827:	877:	852:	900
Total.....	2,425:	6,726:	5,627:	9,547:	10,652:	11,400
AFRICA						
Tunisia.....	115:	136:	207:	161:	138:	160
Union of South Africa.....	1,142:	1,125:	1,250:	1,312:	1,250:	1,200
Total.....	1,257:	1,261:	1,457:	1,473:	1,388:	1,360
OCEANIA						
Australia.....	10,435:	11,741:	14,292:	8,313:	9,052:	11,000
New Zealand.....	2,875:	2,373:	3,240:	2,853:	3,044:	3,170
Total.....	13,310:	14,114:	17,532:	11,166:	12,096:	14,170
World total.....	497,976:	458,277:	464,487:	417,710:	545,240:	641,974
World total (excluding cider)...	334,192:	336,267:	383,655:	336,040:	418,831:	441,141

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 48 pounds except Argentina and Chile in 44 pound boxes. 1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes Syria. 3/ Included with Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information, and on the basis of postwar boundaries. Harvests in Northern Hemisphere countries are for the year shown and are combined with the harvest in Southern Hemisphere countries of the following year.

FEARS: Production in specified countries,
averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1947-50

Continent and country	Average		1947	1948	1949	1950 ^{1/}
	1935-39	1940-44				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada.....	569:	733:	966:	789:	1,000:	756
Mexico.....	331:	508:	598:	629:	631:	639
United States.....	28,693:	28,908:	35,312:	26,334:	36,404:	31,263
Total.....	29,593:	30,149:	36,876:	27,752:	38,035:	32,658
EUROPE						
Austria.....	6,366:	4,691:	8,342:	6,614:	8,157:	8,818
Belgium.....	2,026:	3,172:	6,614:	1,323:	11,023:	5,511
Bulgaria.....	631:	1,647:	2,000:	1,500:	2,000:	1,600
Czechoslovakia.....	4,070:	1,619:	3,579:	4,123:	4,037:	4,000
Denmark.....	480:	776:	802:	961:	1,032:	1,019
France:						
Dessert and cooking.....	1,760:	3,051:	6,639:	4,629:	6,584:	5,291
Cider.....	21,776:	12,453:	11,473:	11,303:	18,459:	30,000
Germany:						
Western Zone.....	11,891:	12,469:	13,091:	6,000:	12,000:	17,900
Eastern Zone.....	3,964:	2,794:	2,943:	1,400:	2,700:	4,000
Greece.....	878:	1,014:	1,221:	988:	1,798:	838
Hungary.....	742:	500:	794:	353:	882:	850
Italy.....	8,859:	9,560:	11,152:	9,316:	14,894:	12,866
Luxembourg.....	100:	208:	277:	200:	300:	250
Netherlands.....	1,570:	2,469:	6,614:	3,263:	6,790:	5,556
Norway.....	174:	137:	121:	297:	103:	447
Poland and Danzig.....	2,200:	1,900:	2,400:	2,000:	2,200:	2,500
Rumania.....	1,103:	1,207:	547:	441:	550:	450
Spain.....	3,057:	2,805:	2,681:	1,905:	1,896:	1,877
Sweden.....	1,063:	771:	794:	794:	1,852:	1,808
Switzerland.....	7,037:	12,654:	16,755:	9,259:	9,700:	15,873
United Kingdom:						
Dessert and cooking.....	782:	1,338:	1,734:	1,416:	1,770:	1,008
Cider.....	237:	349:	332:	99:	224:	90
Yugoslavia.....	2,773:	3,368:	3,088:	2,500:	3,000:	2,500
Total.....	83,539:	80,952:	103,993:	70,684:	111,951:	125,052
Total (excluding cider)...	61,526:	68,150:	92,188:	59,282:	93,268:	94,962
ASIA						
Israel.....	16:	10:	10:	10:	10:	10
Lebanon..... ^{2/}	24:	72:	265:	265:	350:	350
Syria..... ^{3/}	25:	25:	58:	84:	66:	80
Turkey.....	3,466:	2,595:	1,922:	2,608:	4,113:	4,643
Japan.....	7,366:	6,607:	2,337:	2,910:	3,500:	3,000
Korea.....	775:	1,204:	1,850:	2,000:	900:	500
Total.....	11,647:	10,513:	6,442:	7,877:	8,939:	8,583
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina.....	2,443:	5,332:	3,700:	5,800:	4,630:	5,000
Chile.....	88:	58:	100:	105:	100:	110
Total.....	2,531:	5,390:	3,800:	5,905:	4,730:	5,110
AFRICA						
Tunisia.....	53:	45:	62:	44:	44:	60
Union of South Africa.....	832:	675:	800:	540:	960:	400
Total.....	885:	720:	862:	584:	1,004:	460
OCEANIA						
Australia.....	2,467:	2,714:	3,240:	3,125:	2,616:	2,500
New Zealand.....	328:	347:	444:	461:	403:	498
Total.....	2,795:	3,061:	3,684:	3,586:	3,019:	2,998
World total.....	130,990:	130,785:	155,657:	116,388:	167,678:	174,861
World total (excluding cider)...	108,977:	117,983:	143,852:	104,986:	148,995:	144,771

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, United States, New Zealand, and South Africa. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 50 pounds except Argentina and Chile in 44 pound boxes. ^{1/} Preliminary. ^{2/} Includes Syria. ^{3/} Included with Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information, and on the basis of postwar boundaries. Harvests in Northern Hemisphere countries are for the year shown and are combined with the harvest in Southern Hemisphere countries of the following year.

Asia has an indicated crop of 21.6 and 8.6 million bushels, respectively of apples and pears, both crops show a decrease of 11 and 4 percent.

Apple production in South America, in 1950-51, indicated to be 11.4 million bushels, is expected to be slightly above the 1949-50 crop of 10.7 million. Most of the increase in Argentina is in the Rio Negro Valley where the crop was damaged by frost in 1949-50. A slight increase is indicated for Chile.

Apple production is about the same for 1950 as for 1949 for Africa, but the pear crop, because of severe hail damage in South Africa is estimated at 460,000 bushels, or 46 percent below the 1949 level.

The apple crop in Australia, estimated at 11.0 million bushels, is larger than the 1949 crop by around 2 million bushels.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

U.S. FRESH VEGETABLE EXPORTS AT RECORD LEVELS IN 1950 ^{1/}

Exports of fresh vegetables from the United States reached an all-time record of 508 million pounds in 1950. In 1949 a total of 336 million pounds were exported and in 1946, the second highest year of record, the export total was 454 million.

Foreign demand for United States fresh vegetables has increased generally as evidenced by increasing exports over the past decade. The sharp rise in 1950 was due to relaxation of import controls in Canada, which is by far the largest importer of United States fresh vegetables. In 1950 Canada imported 80 percent of the total United States fresh vegetables exported. The recently relaxed import controls were established by Canada in November 1947 to conserve foreign exchange.

From the table below, it will be noted that exports have been at a high level compared to 1940 except for 1943 and 1948, while imports have consistently been much above 1940.

^{1/} A more extensive statement will be published soon as a Foreign Agriculture Circular, available upon request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

United States exports and imports of selected fresh vegetables, seasonal exports and imports compared with seasonal harvest, 1950

Vegetables	Twelve months			Heaviest season of export			Second heaviest season of export				
	Harvest	Exports	Percent: export is of harvest	Months	Harvest	Exports	Percent: export is of harvest	Months	Harvest	Exports	Percent export is of harvest
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent		1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent		1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
<u>Exports</u>											
Onions	2,215,600	118,092	5	May - October	769,800	77,491	10	February - April 1/	99,400	22,441	23
Lettuce	2,590,200	77,044	3	March - May	670,320	35,564	5				
Carrote	1,388,800	56,413	4	March - June	358,750	39,640	11	January - July	683,700	52,974	8
Tomatoes	1,664,400	56,116	3	May - June	535,088	24,503	5	July - December	961,897	27,985	3
Cabbage	3,007,400	54,492	2	March - May	741,934	32,470	4	January - June	1,289,000	52,193	4
Celery	1,637,000	46,646	3	January - June	871,065	41,848	5				
Cantaloupe 2/.....	1,014,600	13,655	1	June - July	436,695	10,866	2				
Watermelons 3/.....	2,036,600	35,684	2	June - July	1,649,550	28,939	2				
<u>Imports</u>											
Onion.....	2,215,600	18,917	1	February-April	99,400	12,998	13				
Lettuce	2,590,200	4,990	0.2	July - September	614,250	4,933	1				
Carrots	1,388,800	2,265	0.2								
Tomatoes	1,664,400	162,049	10	December-April 4/	192,761	165,950	86				
Peppers	220,800	17,501	8	December-April 4/	54,750	17,238	31				
Cucumbers	322,200	12,801	4	January - March	26,208	12,439	47				
Cantaloupe 2/.....	1,014,600	11,417	1	March - May	77,420	9,374	12				
Watermelons 3/.....	2,036,600	3,673	0.2								

1/ Not the heavy season but corresponds to the heavy season of imports. 2/ All except watermelon 3/ Converted to pounds at 25 pounds per melon
4/ Heavy trade-season began in December 1949.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports or the U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

Exports and imports of United States fresh vegetables, 1940-50
Quantities and percentages of 1940-50

Year	Exports				Imports	
	Selected		All		All	
	vegetables 1/		vegetables 2/		vegetables	
	Million pounds	Percent of 1940	Million pounds	Percent of 1945	Million pounds	Percent of 1940
1940.....	107	100	-	-	239	100
1941.....	107	100	-	-	316	132
1942.....	108	101	-	-	325	136
1943.....	81	76	-	-	433	181
1944.....	133	124	-	-	391	164
1945.....	144	135	352	100	424	177
1946.....	211	197	454	129	439	184
1947.....	217	203	435	124	488	204
1948.....	78	73	209	59	501	210
1949.....	139	130	336	96	412	172
1950.....	232	217	508	144	381	159

1/ Includes onions, green peas, beans, tomatoes, melons and cantaloupes.

2/ Data for all vegetables incomplete prior to 1945.

Imports into the United States in 1950 were 381 million pounds, the lowest since 1942, when they were 325 million pounds. In 1943 imports increased to 433 million pounds and remained near that level or above until 1950 when they dropped to 381 million pounds. Except for 1946, United States imports of vegetables exceeded exports; in 1950 total United States imports fell to 75 percent of exports.

Following Canada, the largest importers of United States vegetables were, Cuba with 12 percent, and Mexico with 1 percent. But United States vegetables in small amounts are shipped surprising distances. Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, New Zealand, China, Saudi Arabia, and areas in Africa import small quantities of one or several kinds of United States vegetables almost every year.

The principal commodities sent to Canada from the standpoint of tonnage were lettuce, carrots, cabbage and tomatoes in that order. Principal exports to Cuba were onions, lettuce and carrots in that order, but with onions comprising 88 percent of the total. The principal exports to Mexico were tomatoes and onions.

Mexico, Canada, and Cuba in that order were the 3 most important sources of United States imports of fresh vegetables in 1950. Mexico supplied 44 percent, Canada 30 percent and Cuba 9 percent. The principal imports from Mexico were tomatoes and green peppers. From Canada it was rutabagas and tomatoes, from Cuba tomatoes, cucumbers and green peppers.

Total exports were only 2 percent of the total United States production and net exports were less than 1 percent, but seasonally both exports and imports are important in providing markets for United States production or, contrariwise, in supplementing domestic supplies. The foreign demand for fresh vegetables, and foreign production had comparatively little affect upon the domestic market, except in certain individual commodities in certain localities and in specific seasons of the year;---By Orval E. Goodsell.

PALM OIL AND PALM KERNEL EXPORTS AGAIN EXCEED PREWAR LEVEL ^{1/}

Palm oil and palm kernel exports during 1950 from the principal palm producing areas of the world approximated the 1949 shipments and, for the second successive year, exceeded the prewar level by a small margin, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. While oil exports increased kernel exports declined from 1949, but both were somewhat in excess of prewar.

PALM OIL

Shipments of palm oil--from the principal palm producing countries--totalled 550,000 short tons in 1950, exceeding the 1949 volume by almost 9,000 tons and the 1935-39 average by 13,000 tons. More than two-thirds of the 1950 total originated in Africa with Nigeria alone supplying one-third. Significant increases from 1949 occurred in exports from French West Africa, the Belgian Congo, Cameroons, Togo, Angola, and Nigeria.

Nigeria, normally the source of about one-third of the palm oil entering international trade and about one-half of the shipments from Africa, exported an estimated 195,000 short tons in 1950. For the second successive year shipments surpassed all previous records, exceeding slightly the 1949 exports and the prewar tonnage by one-fourth. The bulk of the shipments went to the United Kingdom.

^{1/} The palm oil and palm kernel situation is reviewed here in terms of exports, rather than production, because of more complete data regarding exports. A more extensive statement will soon be available as a Foreign Agriculture Circular published by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

The Nigerian Department of Agriculture estimated that there were 3,800,000 acres of palm trees in Nigeria at the end of 1949 from which an estimated 530,000 tons of oil is produced. Over half of the oil production is consumed as food by the natives.

PALM OIL: Exports from principal producing countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1947-1950

(Short tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1947	1948	1949	1950 <u>1/</u>
Africa:					
<u>British</u>					
Nigeria.....	153,980	141,068	143,472	189,045	195,000
Sierra Leone.....	1,943	713	2,480	3,705	2,000
Gold Coast.....	549	205	400	290	-
<u>French</u>					
Equatorial Africa.....	6,314	2,948	2,633	4,311	3,000
Cameroons.....	9,842	1,128	2,592	6,924	8,000
Dahomey.....	<u>2/</u> 19,300	783	10,978	((
Guinea.....	<u>2/</u> 270	0	0	<u>3/</u> 10,825	<u>3/</u> 13,000
Ivory Coast.....	<u>2/</u> 3,770	2	944	((
Togo.....	1,842	851	904	467	1,000
<u>Portuguese</u>					
Angola.....	3,254	13,646	9,372	12,688	13,300
Guinea.....	950	1,069	760	1,209	-
Sao Tome and Principe..	1,640	2,052	2,504	2,216	2,000
Belgian Congo.....	72,450	93,624	121,680	133,627	143,443
Liberia.....	1,160	1,237	4,254	2,237	1,825
Total Africa.....	277,264	259,326	301,973	367,544	384,068
Malaya, Federation of.....	47,360	50,771	54,668	61,882	57,350
Indonesia.....	212,685	1,728	43,990	112,281	109,058
Total.....	537,309	311,825	400,631	541,707	550,476

1/ Preliminary estimate

2/ Average 1934-38.

3/ Total French West Africa; colony distribution not available.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information.

The steady expansion of production and exports in the last few years may be expected to continue in view of higher prices resulting from a stronger world market.

Palm oil exports from the Belgian Congo in 1950 reached an all-time high of 143,443 tons, exceeding 1949 shipments by 7 percent and almost doubling the 1935-39 average. In addition, palm kernel oil exports of 16,075 tons represent a continuation of the steady increase from the prewar average of less than 500 tons. Over 40 percent of the palm oil and palm kernel oil exports went to Belgium.

Production of palm oil has continued to increase in the Congo, attaining an estimated record volume of 182,000 tons in 1950 or a gain of more than one-tenth from 1949. This increase resulted principally from more intensive exploitation of wild palms by independent native producers rather than from increased output on European plantations. Steadily increasing market prices coupled with increases in the obligatory minimum price to be paid to independent native sellers as decreed by the Colonial Government were incentives for increasing output. About 20 percent of the total, including a large portion not entering domestic trade channels, is consumed in crude form by the native population. The recent trend of production indicates that output in 1951 will rise to a new high of possibly 193,000 tons, of which about 45 percent would be the output from European-managed plantations and 55 percent from native plantations.

Exports of palm oil in 1950 from French West Africa--Dahomey, Ivory Coast and Guinea--are estimated at 13,000 tons, representing a 20 percent increase from the previous year but less by 10,000 tons than the prewar average. A significant development in the export trade during 1950 was the increased shipments of palm oil and kernels--as well as certain other oleaginous products--to Western European countries other than France. In 1949 practically all of the palm oil went to France and the French Union, whereas in 1950 (first 11 months) about 25 percent of the total went to other European countries and their colonies.

An estimated 90,000 tons of palm oil is produced annually by the natives of Ivory Coast, Dahomey and, to a limited extent, Guinea, by means of primitive presses and crushers. Normally from 5 to 10 percent of the production is exported.

The marketing of increased quantities of palm oil depends primarily on more efficient production. With the recent completion of a palm oil factory in the Ivory Coast and when 5 additional plants now under construction (one in Ivory Coast and 4 in Dahomey) enter into production it is expected that French West Africa will be in a position to export palm oil of a quality equal to that produced in any part of the world. Experimentation with better yielding varieties of trees should result eventually in a better competitive position of this oil through decreased costs of production.

Angola's palm oil exports during the past year were expected to amount to some 13,300 tons--somewhat larger than in 1949 and over 4 times the 1935-39 average shipments. Exports during 1951 are expected to be about as large as in 1950.

Indonesia exported 109,058 tons of palm oil in 1950. Far short of the tonnage expected to be exported, the volume was less than in 1949 by 3,000 tons, and only slightly more than one-half the prewar average. With acreage and production estimated to have increased by the end of September by about 10 percent from 1949, the volume for export was expected to exceed 1949 by a sizeable margin. However, unsettled conditions, including recurring strikes on estates in East Coast Sumatra, retarded production. Limited labor supply also kept exports lower than expected. Shipments in 1950 were made principally to the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Total production during 1950 has been estimated at about 130,000 tons.

Palm oil exports from the Federation of Malaya in 1950 were reported at 57,350 tons, representing a decrease of 7 percent from 1949 but an increase of one-fifth from prewar. Nearly all of the oil (96 percent) was sent to the United Kingdom.

Last year's production of palm oil amounted to about 60,000 tons compared with 56,600 in 1949. During the year there were 48 estates in production (totaling 76,000 acres) of which 38 were European-owned and 10 Chinese-owned. Six new estates came into production during the year with an increase of about 6,000 acres from 1949. Production in 1951 is expected to approximate last year's output. Little if any expansion in acreage, labor, or number of estates is contemplated.

PALM KERNELS

World exports of palm kernels in 1950 are estimated at 840,000 tons, almost 11,000 tons less than in 1949 but greater by 41,000 tons than prewar average shipments. About 96 percent of the total originated in Africa and the remainder in Indonesia and the Federation of Malaya.

Almost half of the world total exports in 1950, or an estimated 400,000 tons, was supplied by Nigeria. Although this was drop of over 20,000 tons from the record volume shipped in 1949, it represented an increase of 8 percent from prewar. Nearly all of the kernels from Nigeria, where production is estimated at 425,000 tons, are shipped to the United Kingdom.

The Belgian Congo reported kernel exports at 94,546 tons, a record volume surpassing 1949 shipments by over 6,000 tons but exceeding prewar by only a slight margin. Of the 1950 total, 45 percent went to Belgium and the remainder to other European countries.

PALM KERNELS: Exports from principal producing countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1947-1950

(Short tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1947	1948	1949	1950 ^{1/}
Africa:					
British					
Nigeria.....	369,292	354,453	368,200	420,935	400,000
Sierra Leone.....	83,775	68,590	74,403	85,726	84,000
Gold Coast.....	7,987	4,106	7,840 ^{2/}	8,000	-
Gambia.....	776	1,298	1,390	1,400	-
French					
Equatorial Africa.....	14,283	10,240	8,337	9,389	9,000
Cameroons.....	39,470	28,578	33,212	39,912	40,000
Dahomey..... ^{3/}	61,000	28,344	42,518	((
Guinea..... ^{3/}	15,900	13,439	14,262	((
Ivory Coast..... ^{3/}	9,850	5,512	9,389 ^{4/}	94,238 ^{4/}	92,600
Senegal..... ^{3/}	2,550	1,122	3,624	((
Togo.....	13,775	5,137	8,941	5,540	14,800
Portuguese					
Angola.....	6,398	15,375	9,809	12,562	11,000
Guinea.....	13,400	16,247	13,361	18,515	-
Sao Tome and Principe....	3,500	5,431	7,227	5,558	8,000
Belgian Congo.....	94,002	53,310	91,904	88,221	94,546
Liberia.....	10,130	4,412	19,671	19,629	21,770
Total Africa.....	746,688	615,594	714,088	809,625	803,616
Malaya, Federation of.....	8,132	5,874	7,249	9,793	9,792
Indonesia.....	44,134	1,758	12,212	31,585	26,561
Total.....	798,954	623,226	733,549	851,003	839,969

^{1/} Preliminary estimate.

^{2/} Estimated.

^{3/} Average 1934-38.

^{4/} Total French West Africa; colony distribution not available.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information.

Kernel exports from French West Africa during 1950--estimated at 92,600 tons--were down about 2,000 tons from 1949. This drop is explained partially by the fact that in 1949 a portion of the exports was made up of tonnage held over from the previous year. The diversion of exports to destinations other than France the past year was even more

pronounced in the case of kernels than of oil. While over 90 percent of the 1949 kernel exports was sent to France, less than one-half of the 1950 tonnage exported was purchased by that country, one-third by Western Germany, and the greater part of the remainder by other European countries.

Sierra Leone, which ranks fourth among the palm kernel exporting countries of the world, may have shipped about 84,000 tons in 1950 or approximately the usual volume exported from that territory.

Palm kernels from wild palms continued in 1950 to be the major cash export crop of the bush farmers of Liberia. Shipments the past year reached 21,770 tons, slightly in excess of 1949 but double the average prewar exports. At present only about one-fifth of Liberia's palm resources are being harvested.

Shipments from Angola of 11,000 tons were down slightly from the previous year but almost 5,000 tons larger than average shipments in prewar years.

Exports of kernels as well as oil from Indonesia were hampered by economic conditions within the country. Shipments dropped from 31,585 tons in 1949 to 26,561 tons in 1950.

British Malaya exported 9,792 tons of kernels in 1950, practically the same volume as in 1949.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

FATS AND OILS

VEGETABLE OILSEED POSITION IN COSTA RICA

Total vegetable oilseed production in Costa Rica during 1950 is estimated at 1,700 short tons, reports Edward L. Tanner, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, San Jose. This represents a decrease of approximately one-tenth from the average 1947-49 production of 1,960 tons.

COSTA RICA: Vegetable oilseed production,
average 1947-49, annual 1950

Oilseed	Area (acres)		Production (short tons)	
	1947-49	1950	1947-49	1950
Sesame.....	1,784	518	825	304
Peanuts.....	1,167	1,727	562	1,014
Copra.....	1/	1/	522	355
Cottonseed.....	216	259	51	33
African oil palms....	2/	7,100	2/	2/

1/ Not available 2/ Negligible

Of outstanding significance is the 7,100 acres of African oil palms which have been planted by a large fruit company over the past 3 years in the Pacific coastal area of Quepos. The ultimate goal of these plantings is 9,000 acres. About 300 acres will come into bearing in 1951.

A noticeable shift in acreage from sesame to peanuts has taken place in recent years. Peanuts, being much less subject to weather changes, insects, and diseases, and better adapted to the small producers' farms, are expected to be the ultimate choice of most growers.

Guaranteed minimum prices to producers, established by the National Production Board for 1950 crops, were : sesame - 70 colons per quintal of 101.4 pounds (\$247 per short ton); unshelled peanuts - 50 colons (\$176); and copra - 100 colons (\$352). Prices for the 1951 sesame and peanut crops have been increased to 85 colons (\$299) for sesame and 60 colons (\$211) for peanuts. Copra prices will remain at 100 colons (\$352).

Consumption of vegetable oils in 1950 is placed at 1,225 tons, composed of 562 tons derived from crushing of local oilseeds, 73 tons from imported copra, 215 tons from imported oils, and a 375-ton carry-over from 1949. An estimated 500 tons of vegetable oil was used for the manufacture of soap and 725 tons for consumption as food. Although consumption of vegetable oils declined from the 1947-49 average of 1,800 tons annually, this does not mean that less oil was used for edible purposes or for the manufacture of soap. The decrease in vegetable oil disappearance was more than offset by an increase in imports of hog lard from 1,190 tons in 1948 to 2,530 tons in 1949 and 2,670 in 1950.

There were no reported exports of vegetable oilseeds or oils during 1950. Imports were limited to 158 tons of copra and 215 tons of vegetable oils.

The aim for self-sufficiency in vegetable oil supplies may become a reality in the near future. Production of palm oil will begin in 1951 as 300 acres of palm trees mature. By 1953 the full acreage should come into bearing and may allow sizeable quantities for export.

INDIA 'A' FLAXSEED ACREAGE DOWN

India's flaxseed acreage for the 1950-51 season is placed at 2,708,000 acres, according to the first official estimate based on returns from some areas as reported by D. R. Guleti, American Embassy, New Delhi. This estimate is somewhat less than the corresponding first estimate of 2,888,000 acres for 1949-50. The decrease is mainly in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh and is attributed generally to unfavorable weather at planting time.

This estimate does not include the acreage under flaxseed grown mixed with other crops in the Uttar Pradesh. Past experience shows that the final estimate usually is about 33 percent higher than the first estimate. On this basis the final area may total 3,600,000 acres compared with 3,781,000 the previous year.

MEXICAN COTTONSEED OIL MILL AT RIO BRAVO NEAR COMPLETION

A new cottonseed oil mill at Rio Bravo, Mexico (12 miles east of Reynosa) is expected to be in operation by August 1951 if sufficient local seed is available, according to Edward S. Benet, American Consulate, Reynosa.

Construction of this plant, begun in June 1950, is progressing rapidly. Ninety percent of the main building is completed and the warehouse, capable of storing 8,800 short tons of cottonseed already has been erected. Two additional warehouses of the same capacity are projected to be built later, as needed. Most of the plant equipment, which includes 12 hydraulic presses and 30 cleaning stands, has been imported from the United States. Electric power from the United States already is available. An outstanding feature of the plant is said to be an automatic boiler using Diesel oil as fuel.

The processing capacity of the mill will be 138 tons of cottonseed on a 24 hour basis. Present plans call for a daily production of about 20 tons of crude cottonseed oil, 83 tons of cake, and some 22 tons of hulls and linters. Total building and plant installations are reported to represent an investment of between 5 and 6 million pesos (\$578,000-\$694,000).

WESTERN GERMANY'S MARGARINE MANUFACTURE IS SUBSIDIZED

The margarine situation in Western Germany has been affected by 2 important developments in the last 3 months, according to J.E. Hyman, Office of Economic Affairs, HICOG (U.S. High Commissioner for Germany), Frankfurt, and the American Consulate General, Hamburg. These developments have been (1) the virtual depletion of raw-material stocks bought pre-Korea and held by the Federal Government of Western Germany, and (2) the decision of the Federal Government to subsidize the manufacture of margarine to avoid the necessity of raising ceilings on prices to consumers (see Foreign Crops and Markets of April 2, 1951--page 384). Ceiling prices, fixed in April 1948, were out of line with increased raw-material costs even prior to the outbreak of war in Korea.

Price-ceiling increases had been requested by the margarine industry as early as mid-November, last, to reflect increased material costs. Instead of permitting a rise in ceiling prices, the Federal Government began to make available high-quality materials, mainly soybean oil, from the Federal reserve stocks of 44,000 short tons. These stocks, built up before the Korean war began, were made available to the industry at original cost. By the end of January--because of this "raw material subsidy"--nearly all of the supplies had been used with only 4,400 tons remaining.

The Federal Government refused to yield to pressures from the margarine industry to raise the fixed consumer prices. Instead, it chose to maintain price ceilings and resort to the grant of a money subsidy. On February 16 the Government decided to subsidize the current price of both margarine and cooking fats for the period February 1-24, by granting to the margarine industry the difference between the current maximum price and the price requested by the industry, 40 pfennigs per kilogram (equivalent to U.S. 4.3 cents per pound). On February 23 the Government decided on a continuation of the subsidy through March 1951, with the cost to be defrayed from the over-all food subsidy funds.

TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

BRAZIL'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS HIGHER

Brazil's 1950-51 tobacco production is unofficially estimated at 2 percent above the revised estimate for 1949. Leaf and twist tobacco exports during first 11 months (January-November) 1950 were 17 percent above the exports during the 1949 calendar year and 33 percent above 1948.

The country's 1950-51 leaf harvest is unofficially estimated at 218 million pounds. This compares with the revised estimate of 213 million pounds for 1949-50 and 196 million in 1948-49. The area planted as tobacco in 1950-51 is tentatively placed at 296,800 acres as compared with 284,800 acres in 1949-50 and 282,500 in 1948-49.

Exports of leaf and twist tobacco during January-November 1950 totaled 72.9 million pounds as compared with 62.3 million pounds in the 1949 calendar year and 54.8 million pounds in 1948. Of the 1950 total exports leaf constituted 71.2 million pounds or 98 percent and twist tobacco the remaining 1.7 million pounds or 2 percent. Germany, the largest 1950 export outlet took 18.0 million pounds of leaf, Spain, the second largest outlet took 11.9 million pounds, the Netherlands ranking third, with 7.9 million, Switzerland fourth, with 5.5 million, Denmark fifth with 4.0 million, Uruguay, sixth, with 3.9 million. The remaining 20.0 million pounds of leaf exports were taken in varying quantities by numerous other countries including the United States, United Kingdom, France, Austria, Finland, Sweden, Argentina, and others. Uruguay took all of Brazil's 1950 twist tobacco exports.

IRAN'S TOBACCO IMPORTS AND EXPORTS HIGHER; STOCKS LOWER

Iran's leaf and manufactured tobacco imports during December 22, 1949 to December 21, 1950 were 42 percent above the corresponding 1949 period, according to H. V. Geib, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Tehran. Leaf exports for the period December 22, 1949 to December 21, 1950 were 31 percent above the same 1949 period. Stocks of leaf on December 21, 1950 were 3 percent below the total on the same 1949 date.

The country's 1950 leaf and manufactured tobacco imports totaled 216,051 pounds as compared with 152,117 pounds in 1949 and an 8-year (1942-43 to 1949-50) average of 48,501 pounds. No data is available for the amount of each type of imported product. The United Kingdom was the sole supplier of both leaf and manufactured tobacco. Imports of manufactured tobacco is prohibited by law except from the British-operated Anglo-Iranian Oil Company which may import for sale to their employees.

Exports of leaf and manufactured tobacco during 1950 (December 22, 1949 to December 21, 1950) totaled 998,684 pounds as compared with 762,792 in 1949. The Netherlands took 970,002 pounds or 97 percent of all 1950 tobacco exports.

Stocks of leaf tobacco in Iran as of December 21, 1950 were estimated at 61.2 million pounds as compared to 63.1 million pounds on hand December 21, 1949 and 66.8 million on the same 1948 date.

INDONESIA'S COFFEE PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS HIGHER

The estimate of total coffee production in Indonesia during 1950 has been revised sharply upward to around 1,085,000 bags from the forecast of 715,000 bags made last October, according to the American Embassy, Djakarta. This compares with a total output of 520,000 bags in 1949, 400,000 bags in 1948, and a prewar (1935-39) annual average of 1,961,000 bags.

The 1950 coffee production was composed of about 310,000 bags of estate coffee and 775,000 bags grown on small farms owned by Indonesians. About 17,000 bags of the estate coffee was Arabica and the remainder high quality Robusta. Of the crop grown by Indonesians on small farms, only about 8,000 bags was Arabica and the rest lower quality Robusta. High coffee prices and favorable growing conditions are given as reasons for the unexpectedly large 1950 harvest.

Although official export statistics are available only through October 1950, it is estimated that about 225,000 bags of coffee were exported from Indonesia during the entire 1950 calendar year. This compares with exports of 89,000 bags in 1949, 37,000 bags in 1948, and a prewar annual average of 1,357,000 bags. Indonesian coffee consumption is estimated at about 665,000 bags for 1950.

The Indonesian Government now has prohibited the exportation of all types of coffee, and officials maintain that no more will be released for shipment until the 1951 harvest begins in June. Coffee stocks in Indonesia were estimated in February 1951 at around 800,000 bags.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S 1950 CACAO EXPORTS AT RECORD HIGH

Exports of cacao beans and unsweetened chocolate from the Dominican Republic in 1950 were higher than in any previous calendar year, according to H. R. Zerbel, American Embassy, Ciudad Trujillo. About 56.8 million pounds of cacao beans and 9.6 million pounds of unsweetened chocolate were exported from the Dominican Republic in 1950.

Converting the chocolate to a cacao bean equivalent, total shipments in terms of cacao beans reached a peak of approximately 68.8 million pounds. This compares with a previous record of 66.1 million pounds of cacao beans and 1.6 million pounds of unsweetened chocolate, or the equivalent of 68.2 million pounds of cacao beans shipped from the Dominican Republic in 1947. In 1949, exports amounted to 44.2 million pounds of cacao beans and 7.4 million pounds of unsweetened chocolate, equal to a total of 53.5 million pounds of cacao beans.

The total value of the 1950 exports of cacao beans and unsweetened chocolate was almost double the value of the 1949 shipments. The value of the cacao bean exports increased from \$7.5 million in 1949 to \$14.6 million in 1950, and the value of unsweetened chocolate shipments rose from \$1.8 million to \$2.7 million in the same period.

About 18 million pounds of cacao beans were harvested in the Dominican Republic from the intermediate (October to February) 1950-51 crop.

Flowering for the main (April to June) 1950-51 crop ranged from normal to heavy, and a harvest of about 44 million pounds is expected. The total production of cacao beans in the Dominican Republic for 1950-51 now is forecast at about 62 million pounds, a better-than-average crop but substantially smaller than the record output of 73 million pounds in 1949-50.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

U.S. RICE EXPORTS LARGELY TO CUBA

Exports of United States rice during February totaled 668,000 bags (100 pounds) compared with 411,000 bags during the corresponding month of the preceding year. Cuba, the principal market, took 89 percent of the total. Rice was shipped also to Canada, Switzerland, Venezuela, and Saudi Arabia.

RICE: United States exports to specified countries,
February 1951, with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	August-July		August-February:			February	
	1937-38						
	to						
	1941-42		1949-50:1949-50:1950-51:			1950 : 1951	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
Switzerland.....	41	110	61	85	2	11	
Austria.....	3/	47	47	0	0	0	
Greece.....	64	224	113	196	0	0	
Belgium and Luxembourg.....	66	277	235	161	7	1	
Other Europe.....	257	49	42	10	1	0	
Total Europe....	428	707	498	452	10	12	
Cuba.....	2,750	6,119	4,196	5,316	35	597	
Canada.....	194	469	349	252	48	24	
Venezuela.....	20	220	109	91	42	10	
Br. West Indies..	4/	121	111	18	5	2	
Philippines.....	4/	18	17	0	0	0	
Indonesia.....	5/	1,733	1,732	3	237	0	
Japan.....	2/	1,366	437	193	17	1	
Other countries..	190	467	346	155	17	22	
Total.....	3,582	11,220	7,795	6,480	411	668	

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary.
3/ Not separately classified. 4/ Less than 500 bags. 5/ If any, included in "Other countries."

Rice exports of 6,480,000 bags during the August-February period of the current marketing year were 17 percent less than 7,795,000 bags shipped during the corresponding months of the year before. The principal destinations thus far this season have been Cuba, Canada, Japan, Greece, and Belgium and Luxembourg.

BURMA INCREASES

RICE EXPORTS

Exports of milled rice from Burma during the first 2 months of 1951 totaled 404 million pounds compared with 128 million pounds during the corresponding months of a year earlier. The principal countries of destination in January and February were India, Ceylon, Japan and Indonesia. Exports to Africa of approximately 12 million pounds were shipped principally to East Africa, Ethiopia, and Seychelles.

BURMA: Rice (milled) exports by country of destination,
February 1951, with comparisons

Country of destination	Average 1936-40	1949	1950 1/	1951 1/		
				January	February	January- February
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
India.....	3,532	837	426	59	79	138
Ceylon.....	807	594	942	57	76	133
Malaya.....	508	326	59	2	3	5
Indonesia.....	156	297	436	26	5	31
Hong Kong.....	2/	38	18	0	0	0
China.....	117	89	68	0	0	0
Japan.....	3/ 233	122	379	36	14	50
Pakistan.....	4/	125	2/	0	0	0
United Kingdom....	128	63	17	2/	0	2/
Other Europe.....	497	2/	52	0	1	1
Mauritius.....	61	2/	49	0	5	5
French and Portuguese India:	2/	2/	46	5	0	5
Near East.....	2/	2/	98	2	23	25
Other countries....	465	141	49	3	8	11
Total.....	6,504	2,632	2,639	190	214	404

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Not separately reported. 3/ Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

4/ Included in imports into India. 5/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

State Agricultural Marketing Board of Burma.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTSMEXICAN LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER,
MEAT PRODUCTION AND EXPORT

Total cattle slaughter in Mexico during the calendar year 1950 was estimated at 2,300,000 head, a slight reduction from the 1949 total. Mexican hog slaughter in 1950 was estimated at 1,950,000 head as compared with 1,820,000 the previous year. Sheep and goat slaughter was near 600,000 and 850,000 head, respectively.

There is believed to have been an increase in commercial cattle slaughter at municipal slaughter houses in 1950 as compared with 1949. This increase, however, was more than offset by decreases in slaughter at Mexico City for foot-and-mouth disease vaccine production and decreases in the kill at Northern Mexican meat packing plants.

Meat production fell off somewhat in 1950 according to preliminary data. Total Mexican output amounted to 1,013 million pounds in 1950 compared with 1,023 million pounds in 1949. Processing of beef and veal and mutton and lamb decreased, but pork increased. Production of goat meat was about the same. The number and quality of cattle available for slaughter in the fall of 1951 will be greatly affected by the severe drought experienced during the past fall and winter in all the leading cattle-raising districts of northern Mexico.

MEXICO: Estimated total meat production, by types,
during 1950 with comparison

Type of meat	Average 1934-38	1948	1949	1950 <u>1/</u>
	Million <u>pounds</u>	Million <u>pounds</u>	Million <u>pounds</u>	Million <u>pounds</u>
Beef and veal.....	492	787	747	710
Pork, excl. lard....	167	243	225	258
Mutton and lamb....	14	24	25	19
Goat.....	25	24	26	26
Total Meat....	698	1,078	1,023	1,013

1/ Preliminary.

Exports of all types of meat increased sharply from 1946 until 1950 when termination of United States contracts substantially reduced canned meat shipments. Preliminary estimates reveal that about 42,000,000 pounds (carcass weight) were exported in 1950 compared with around 127,000,000 in 1949. The forecast for 1951 is roughly 86,000,000 pounds (carcass weight), of which 20,000,000 may be chilled or frozen meat.

MEXICO: Meat exports by types 1947-50, with exportable surplus forecast for 1951

Type of meat	1947	1948	1949	1950 prel.	1951 forecast
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
<u>Product weight</u>					
Chilled or frozen beef	--	2	29	6,618	(
Fresh, chilled or frozen meat, n.s. ^{1/}	--	1,521	10,077	16,687	(20,000
Smoked, salted, etc. n.s.	--	2	--	2	<u>2/</u>
Canned meat	10,970	65,000	83,462	13,567	<u>2/</u>
Total product wt.	10,970	66,525	93,568	36,874	<u>2/</u>
Total carcass wt.	15,358	92,527	126,953	42,301	86,000

^{1/} Principally beef

^{2/} Not available on product weight basis

Compiled from official sources.

Based on scattered information from some of the larger packing plants, it is currently estimated that 30,000 metric tons (66 million pounds) of beef and gravy, corned beef, and miscellaneous cured meats could be exported from cattle slaughtered during the calendar year 1951. An additional 8 to 10 thousand metric tons (18 to 22 million pounds) of frozen quartered-beef will also be exported or available for export during the year. The Mexican Government established a Federal Meat Inspection Service in 1950 which was given recognition at the end of the year by the United States Department of Agriculture, thereby making it possible for the United States to import canned and cured meats, packed after December 30, 1950. There are indications that sizable quantities of cured beef may move to markets in the United States during 1951.

In addition to these quantities of beef for export, the northern packing plants are expected to ship 200 to 300 metric tons (450,000 to 650,000 pounds) of frozen and cured beef to the Mexico City market.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERCOTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound	
					Spot quo- tation	Export and inter- mediate taxes
<u>Alexandria</u>		: Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good.....	4-12	: 99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 123.70	: 71.71	: 11.83
Ashmouni, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	: 107.00	: 62.02	: 11.83
Karnak, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 174.00	: 100.86	: 11.83
Karnak, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)		
<u>Bombay</u>		: Candy				
Jarila, Fine.....	"	: 784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 1/ 770.00	: 20.50	: 21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine....	"	: "	: "	: 1/ 840.00	: 22.36	: 21.30
<u>Karachi</u>		: Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine...	4-11	: 82.28 lbs.	: "	: 119.00	: 43.63	: 23.09
289F Sind, SG, Fine...	"	: "	: "	: 123.00	: 45.10	: 23.09
289F Punjab, SG, Fine..	"	: "	: "	: 136.00	: 49.86	: 23.09
<u>Buenos Aires</u>		: Metric ton				
Type B.....	4-12	: 2204.6 lbs.	: Peso	: 2/ 8600.00	: 78.02	: 7.28
<u>Lima</u>		: Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2....	4-10	: 101.4 lbs.	: Sol	: 725.00	: 47.82	: 32.04
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)		
Pima, Type 1.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)		
<u>Recife</u>		: Arroba				
Mata, Type 4.....	4-12	: 33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	: 2/ 400.00	: 65.81	: 2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)		: valorem
Sertao, Type 4.....	"	: "	: "	: 2/ 420.00	: 69.10	: " "
<u>Sao Paulo</u>						
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 380.00	: 62.52	: 3.0% "
<u>Torreón</u>		: Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16".....	"	: 101.4 lbs.	: Peso	: 545.00	: 62.13	: 12.07
<u>Houston-Galveston-New</u>						
Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	: Pound	: Cent	: XXXXX	: 44.86	: ----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Ceiling price.

2/ Nominal.

U.S. COTTON EXPORTS HIGHER IN FEBRUARY

Exports of cotton from the United States in February totaled 447,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight (429,000 running bales) compared with 328,000 bales (317,000 running bales) in January. The cumulative total for August-February 1950-51 now stands at 2,694,000 bales (2,578,000 running bales) or 16 percent below the total of 3,203,000 bales (3,069,000 running bales) for the similar period in 1949-50.

The principal destinations in February were: Japan 89,000 bales, Germany 85,000, Italy 62,000, Canada 44,000, India 35,000, France 18,000, Yugoslavia 16,000, and Spain 12,000. Exports of cotton that are charged against the allocations now total 2,208,000 running bales, leaving a remainder for export of 1,288,000 from the 3,496,000 running bales allocated to date. Export licenses issued by the United States Department of Commerce through April 2, 1951, cover 3,003,840 bales, leaving 492,160 bales of allocated cotton yet to be licensed. About 48 percent or 238,000 bales of this balance is allocated to Italy. France (71,000), Germany (54,000), Korea (38,000), Netherlands (29,000), Austria (24,000), and Formosa (10,000) account for practically all of the remaining 254,000 bales. All of these countries are receiving cotton under the Economic Cooperation Administration cotton export program and must move by June 15 all the cotton purchased with funds authorized for the 1950-51 fiscal year.

Exports to Canada (not restricted) amounted to 260,000 bales (247,000 running bales) during the 7-month period under review and are expected to exceed 425,000 bales for the 1950-51 season. Canadian mills are consuming at a rate of around 40,000 bales a month, composed almost entirely of American Upland cotton and stocks on hand are sufficient for only 6 to 8 weeks' operations. At present price ratios between United States cotton (45-cent ceiling price) and similar foreign growths (selling at 75 to 90 cents a pound) Canadian mills may be expected to depend entirely on United States sources for further imports this year, except for insignificant amounts of long and short staple growths for special uses.

There has been no decision by the cotton allocating authorities in the United States Department of Agriculture regarding the possibility of further allocations for export during the year ending July 31, 1951. This question will be settled in the near future after a survey of the current supply position in the United States and the outlook for the new crop.--By Charles H. Barber.

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination;
 averages 1934-38 and 1939-43; annual 1948-49 and 1949-50;
 August-February 1949-50 and 1950-51
 (Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1				August-February	
	Averages		1948	1949	1949-50	1950-51
	1934-38	1939-43				
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria.....	0	1/	74	61	22	22
Belgium-Luxembourg..	147	43	152	192	118	57
Czechoslovakia.....	65	0	36	58	42	6
Denmark.....	35	5	30	34	21	15
Finland.....	35	11	35	3	3	0
France.....	589	154	676	794	529	250
Germany.....	579	4	504	759	381	309
Greece.....	2	2	12	50	20	1
Italy.....	430	12	652	749	416	228
Netherlands.....	86	34	195	259	151	79
Norway.....	13	6	17	8	5	13
Poland and Danzig..	224	1	95	47	28	1
Spain.....	101	117	70	66	36	46
Sweden.....	93	53	2/	29	11	30
Switzerland.....	2	14	38	41	33	19
United Kingdom.....	1,097	987	781	607	421	251
Yugoslavia.....	10	7	42	26	18	40
Other Europe.....	3/ 85	146	4/ 64	5/ 38	23	6
Total Europe.....	3,593	1,596	3,473	3,821	2,278	1,373
Canada.....	261	294	307	286	159	260
Chile.....	6/	5	60	39	29	17
Colombia.....	17	9	53	63	25	31
Cuba.....	7	11	8	19	14	17
India.....	44	18	3	407	84	106
China.....	55	106	282	132	65	54
Japan.....	1,271	216	652	929	439	704
Fr. Indochina and						
Fr. India.....	6/	14	8	11	6	6
Korea.....	6/	N.A.	34	52	17	14
Australia.....	5	20	0	0	0	0
Other countries.....	43	7	7/ 81	8/ 243	87	112
Total.....	5,296	2,296	4,961	6,002	3,203	2,694

1/ Included with Germany. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes 39 Portugal.
 23 Soviet Union. 4/ Includes 28 Soviet Union, 14 Rumania, 6 Bulgaria, 6 Hungary.
 5/ Hungary 24. 6/ If any, included in "Other countries." 7/ Includes 29 Hong
 Kong, 11 Palestine. 8/ Includes 143 Hong Kong, 41 Manchuria. 9/ Includes
 27 Hong Kong and 18 Manchuria.

CURRENT IMPORTS OF COTTON INTO
SWITZERLAND ABOVE 1949-50

Switzerland's imports of cotton during the first 6 months of the 1950-51 season totaled 125,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight) as compared to 93,000 bales during the corresponding period of the preceding season, according to O.B. Moussman, American Consulate, Zurich. Total imports in 1949-50 were about 142,000 bales. During the first half of the current season Egypt supplied 30 percent of total imports, Mexico 22 percent, and the United States 18 percent.

The cotton mills in Switzerland, operating at full capacity, consumed about 73,500 bales of cotton from August 1, 1950, to January 31, 1951. On this basis, mill consumption during the entire 1950-51 season may be expected to reach nearly 150,000 bales. In addition, about 7,000 bales are usually required during the year for consumption outside of the spinning mills. During the preceding season mill consumption amounted to 133,000 bales. The increase in consumption is attributed to an improved export demand for cotton yarns and fabrics while the domestic market remained fairly stable. Since the cotton spinning industry has already contracted for the sale of its output well into the first quarter of 1952, the spinners wish to maintain adequate stocks to meet this backlog of orders. Stocks on January 31, 1951, amounting to 125,000 bales, were almost sufficient for consumption through the end of 1951 at the current rate of mill operations. The industry feels, however, that the geographical position of the country with its lack of seaports warrants keeping stocks above those that might be adequate in other countries.

Yarn production during the first 6 months of 1950-51 was 30,332,000 pounds, which is more than half of the 55,741,000 pounds produced in the entire 1949-50 season. In prewar years, Switzerland was essentially a producer and exporter of fine yarns, but postwar conditions in export markets have seriously altered this situation. Since the fine Swiss cotton fabrics were usually classified as nonessentials in many other countries, very limited amounts of exchange were made available for the importation of Swiss goods. In order to keep the mills in operation, Swiss mill owners were therefore forced to shift a large part of their capacity to the production of coarse and medium cotton yarns and somewhat heavier fabrics for export to soft-currency countries. With recent improvements in exchange conditions, the demand for finer fabrics has increased. This is reflected in the production of fine yarns in Switzerland, number 50 and upward, which has increased from 15 percent of the total in 1949-50 to almost 19 percent during the first half of the current season.

NORTHERN BELGIAN CONGO COTTON CROP
25 PERCENT BELOW EXPECTATIONS

Trade estimates have placed the 1950-51 production of cotton north of the Equator in the Belgian Congo at 95,000 bales (500 pounds gross), or 25 percent below last year's crop of 126,000 bales. Earlier estimates were equal to last year's production. Picking of the crop was completed in February. Unseasonable rains during the usual dry season when the bolls were opening, combined with an insect infestation, caused the reduced production estimate. The prospects in the area south of the Equator are for a crop equalling the 1949-50 harvest of 108,000 bales, possibly increasing up to 119,000 bales. Picking in this region will begin in June, continuing through August.

The total Belgian Congo cotton crop for 1950-51 is expected to be about 205,000 bales. Production is fairly evenly divided between North and South, with the North producing slightly more than half the total crop in 1949-50 and 1948-49 and the South producing more than 50 percent in the preceding 2 seasons. Production of cotton in the Congo varies very little from year to year. Reasons for this are the constant acreage planted to the crop due to the limited supply of labor. In addition, the price established by the Government, which varies only slightly each year, does not encourage abrupt changes in planted area. The only variable factors are the weather and seriousness of insect infestations. However, in the past it has happened that bad weather or serious insect damage in one area is offset by favorable weather or minor insect damage in the other area, tending to keep the total production from varying greatly.

Belgian Congo: Exports of cotton during 1950
(Bales of 500 pounds gross weight)

<u>Country of destination</u>	<u>Bales</u>
Belgium	144,816
United Kingdom	66,314
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan <u>1/</u>	4,409
Union of South Africa	2,068
Finland	1,270
Sweden	891
Italy	97
	<hr/>
	219,865

1/ For reexport.

Cotton grown in the Congo is all of the American Upland type. The replacement of the Triumph Big Boll variety because of its susceptibility to wilt was completed in 1950-51. In the North the principal variety is Stoneville, while in the South, Gar, a hybrid of Triumph Big Boll and the South African U4 variety, is grown. Both of these varieties have a staple length of 15/16 inch to 1 inch. Another variety designated by the number 14-125, a hybrid of Allen Long Staple and U4, is also grown in the South. The staple length of this variety ranges from 1-1/32 inches to 1-1/16 inches. The grades are high in the Congo because of generally good weather and sorting by the natives after hand picking.

Consumption in 1949-50 was reported to be almost 26,000 bales. This figure is expected to increase to around 28,000 bales in 1950-51 continuing to rise gradually in the future.

The cotton crop in the Belgian Congo is sold by the grower to one of 12 marketing companies which are controlled by European capital. These companies in turn sell the cotton to the mills or move it to port to be pooled for export by the Comptoir de Vente des Cafes du Congo (Covenco), a cooperative agency. Profits from export sales of Covenco are shared by the 12 member companies in proportion to their contributions to the pool.

More than half of the cotton exported from the Congo goes to Belgium, some being reexported from there. In 1950, almost 145,000 bales, or 66 percent of the total exports, went to Belgium, as indicated by the accompanying table. Under terms of a governmental convention, 15,000 metric tons (about 66,000 bales) are supplied annually to the United Kingdom.--By J. E. Manger, based in part on a report by H.D. Jones, American Consulate, Leopoldville.